

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Attorney Docket No.: **ASAIN0137**
Masayoshi TONOUCHI et al) Confirmation No. 8630
Serial No.: 10/760,549)
Filed: January 21, 2004)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR) Date: July 28, 2004
INSPECTING WIRE BREAKING OF)
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):

- within three months of the filing date of this application (not a C.P.A.);
- within three months of the date of entry of the National Stage;
- before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

A copy of each document listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B is attached. In accordance with Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Attached is a copy of the Search Report issued in the corresponding European application. Since all of the documents cited herein were cited in said Search Report, it is believed that the relevancy of each document cited is clear from the Search Report. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that a copy of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, be initialed by the Examiner and returned to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No.

50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

2

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/760,549 |
| Filing Date | January 21, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Masayoshi TONOUCHI et al |
| Art Unit | 2858 |
| Examiner Name | Unassigned |

Sheet

1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND**

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| | | Application Number | 10/760,549 |
| | | Filing Date | January 21, 2004 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Masayoshi TONOUCHI et al |
| | | Art Unit | 2858 |
| | | Examiner Name | Unassigned |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
| | | Attorney Docket Number | ASAIN0137 |

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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